Honolulu, Hawaii

MAR 3 0 2012

RE: S.R. No. 89

Honorable Shan S. Tsutsui President of the Senate Twenty-Sixth State Legislature Regular Session of 2012 State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Health, to which was referred S.R. No. 89 entitled:

"SENATE RESOLUTION DECLARING THE MONTH OF APRIL OF EACH YEAR AS AUTISM AWARENESS MONTH IN HAWAII,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to declare the month of April of each year as Autism Awareness Month in Hawaii.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Health, State Council on Developmental Disabilities, Autism Speaks, Community Children's Council of Hawaii, Autism Society, and four individuals.

Your Committee finds that the incidence of autism spectrum disorders is increasing by ten to seventeen percent per year. The United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention estimate that autism affects as many as one in every one hundred ten children, and studies have found that over the last twelve years, the prevalence of autism has dramatically increased by 289.5 percent. Your Committee also finds that while there is no cure for autism, early identification allows parents to seek early intervention services, which may spare individuals from life-long dependency as a ward of the State. Your Committee consequently finds that designating April as Autism Awareness Month falls in line with National Autism Awareness Month and provides a special opportunity for advocates and state and private agencies to increase awareness of autism, early developmental screenings, and early intervention services.

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As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Health that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of S.R. No. 89 and recommends its adoption.

Respectfully submitted on behalf of the members of the Committee on Health,

JOSH GREEN, M.D., Chair

## The Senate Twenty-Sixth Legislature State of Hawaiʻi

## Record of Votes Committee on Health HTH

Bill / Resolution No.:*	Committee Referral:		Da	Date:	
5R89	HTH		0	03/27/12	
The committee is reconsidering its previous decision on this measure.					
If so, then the previous decision was to:					
The Recommendation is:					
Pass, unamended Pass, with amendments Hold Recommit 2312 2311 2310 2313					
Members		Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
GREEN, M.D., Josh (C)		V			
NISHIHARA, Clarence K. (VC)		V			
BAKER, Rosalyn H.					
CHUN OAKLAND, Suzanne		1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1			/
SHIMABUKURO, Maile					
WAKAI, Glenn				V	
SLOM, Sam					/
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			25	<u> </u>	
TOTAL		4	0	6	3
Recommendation:					
Adopted Not Adopted					
Chair's or Designee's Signature:  Clarence & Prochilum					
Distribution: Original Yellow Pink Goldenrod File with Committee Report Clerk's Office Drafting Agency Committee File Copy					